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Before the FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20554

MAY 2 8 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

In re Applications of	CC Docket No. 91-142
ALGREG CELLULAR ENGINEERING )	File No. 10607-CL-P-307-A-89
For Facilities in the Domestic Public (Cellular Telecommunications Radio (Service on Frequency Block A (in Market 307 - Alabama 1-Franklin (Cellular Telecommunications Radio (Cellular Telecommunication) (Cellular Telecommunica	
CRANFORD CELLULAR COMMUNICATIONS )	File No. 10611-CL-P-311-A-89
For Facilities in the Domestic Public (Cellular Telecommunications Radio (Service on Frequency Block A (in Market 311 - Alabama 5-Cleburne ()	
NEW ERA CELLULAR TELE-COMMUNICATIONS	File No. 10563-CL-P-332-A-89
For Facilities in the Domestic Public (Cellular Telecommunications Radio (Service on Frequency Block A (in Market 332 - Arkansas 9-Polk (Cellular Telecommunications Radio (Cellular Telecommun	
BAY CELLULAR OF FLORIDA	File No. 10754-CL-P-497-A-89
For Facilities in the Domestic Public ) Cellular Telecommunications Radio ) Service on Frequency Block A in ) Market 497 - Mississippi 5 - Washington )	
FLORIDA CELLULAR	File No. 10445-CL-P-505-A-89
For Facilities in the Domestic Public (Cellular Telecommunications Radio (Service on Frequency Block A (in Market 505 - Missouri 2-Harrison (Cellular Telecommunication (Cellular Telecommunications Radio (Cellular Telecomm	
A-1 CELLULAR COMMUNICATIONS	File No. 10454-CL-P-514-A-89
For Facilities in the Domestic Public (Cellular Telecommunications Radio Service on Frequency Block A in Market 514 - Missouri 11-Moniteau	
BRAVO CELLULAR	File No. 10673-CL-P-579-A-89
For Facilities in the Domestic Public Cellular Telecommunications Radio Service on Frequency Block A in Market 579 - North Carolina 15-Cabarrus	
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ALPHA CELLULAR	File No. 10909-CL-P-586-A-89
For Facilities in the Domestic Public Cellular Telecommunications Radio Service on Frequency Block A in Market 586 - Ohio 2-Sandusky	
CEL-TEL COMMUNICATIONS	File No. 10912-CL-P-589-A-89
For Facilities in the Domestic Public Cellular Telecommunications Radio Service on Frequency Block A in Market 589 - Ohio 5-Hancock	
EJM CELLULAR PARTNERS	File No. 10567-CL-P-596-A-89
For Facilities in the Domestic Public Cellular Telecommunications Radio Service on Frequency Block A in Market 596 - Oklahoma 1-Cimarron	
PINELLAS COMMUNICATIONS	File No. 10808-CL-P-613-A-89
For Facilities in the Domestic Public Cellular Telecommunications Radio Service on Frequency Block A in Market 613 - Pennsylvania 2-McKean	
CENTAUR PARTNERSHIP	File No. 10720-CL-P-631-A-89
For Facilities in the Domestic Public Cellular Telecommunications Radio Service on Frequency Block A in Market 631 - South Carolina 7-Calhoun	
SIGNAL CELLULAR COMMUNICATIONS	File No. 10721-CL-P-632-A-89
For Facilities in the Domestic Public Cellular Telecommunications Radio Service on Frequency Block A in Market 632 - South Carolina 8 - Hampton	
A-1 CELLULAR COMMUNICATIONS	File No. 10409-CL-P-661-A-89
For Facilities in the Domestic Public Cellular Telecommunications Radio Service on Frequency Block A in Market 661 - Texas 10-Navarro	
EJM CELLULAR PARTNERS	File No. 10116-CL-P-721-A-89
For Facilities in the Domestic Public Cellular Telecommunications Radio Service on Frequency Block A in Market 721 - Wyoming 4-Niobrara	

JAYBAR COMMUNICATIONS

For Facilities in the Domestic Public Cellular Telecommunications Radio Service on Frequency Block A in Market 323 - Arizona 6-Graham for Station KNKN 251

DATA CELLULAR SYSTEMS

For Facilities in the Domestic Public Cellular Telecommunications Padio

For Facilities in the Domestic Public Cellular Telecommunications Radio Service on Frequency Block A in Market 345 - California 10-Sierra for Station KNKN 250

CELLULAR PACIFIC

For Facilities in the Domestic Public Cellular Telecommunications Radio Service on Frequency Block A in Market 346 - California 11-El Dorado for Station KNKN 252

NORTH AMERICAN CELLULAR

For Facilities in the Domestic Public Cellular Telecommunications Radio Service on Frequency Block A in Market 388 - Idaho 1-Boundary for Station KNKN 253 ) File No. 10042-CL-P-323-A-88

File Nos. 10029-CL-P-345-A-88 07080-CL-P-MP-91

File Nos. 10031-CL-P-346-A-88 06606-CL-MP-90 06688-CL-MP-90

File No. 10066-CL-P-388-A-88

TO: Magalie Roman Salas, Secretary for direction to
John I. Riffer
Assistant General Counsel, Administ

Assistant General Counsel, Administrative Law Division

## PETITION FOR RECONSIDERATION

1. Pursuant to Section 1.106 of the Commission's Rules,
Castle Trust, Orbit Cellular, RSA Cellular Partners, Schuylkill
Mobile Fone, Inc., Scott Reardon, Skyline Cellular Partners,
Sunrise Trust, Walker Trust, and Turnpike Cellular Partners
(collectively referred to herein as "Petitioners") hereby seek
reconsideration of the Memorandum Opinion and Order ("MO&O"), FCC
99I-08, Mimeo No. 90447, released April 28, 1999 in the abovecaptioned proceeding.

- 2. In the MO&O, the Assistant General Counsel,
  Administrative Law Division ("AGC"), acting pursuant to
  Section 0.251(c) of the Commission's rules (see MO&O, ¶6),
  purports to "sever from [this] proceeding on a prospective basis"
  (MO&O, ¶5) certain of the captioned parties. To the extent that
  that "severance" is intended to insulate the subject parties from
  any further consideration relative to the merits of the issues in
  this proceeding, such action is ineffective because the AGC does
  not have the authority to do so.
- 3. The Petitioners are all applicants for cellular authorizations in one or more of the markets specified in the above-captioned applications. The Petitioners have duly prosecuted their respective applications consistently with the Commission's rules, regulations and processes. The Petitioners' applications were not selected in the Commission's lottery processes; the above-captioned parties' applications were selected. Nevertheless, because the Commission has not yet taken any final action in this proceeding, the Petitioners' applications remain pending before the Commission.
- 4. The Petitioners filed a Statement for the Record in June, 1998, in which they advised the Commission (and all other parties hereto) that the Petitioners were joining in and adopting (by incorporation in their Statement) the issues as set forth in the two petitions for reconsideration already pending relative to the Commission's decision in Algreg Cellular Engineering ("Algreg"), 12 FCC Rcd 8148 (1997).

- 5. In the MO&O, the AGC states that he is "sever[ing]" a number of parties from this proceeding "on a prospective basis". The meaning and intended effect of this are not entirely clear. It appears that the AGC intends that the "severed" parties will be removed from the proceeding, and that the issues which have been raised relative to the qualifications of those "severed" parties will not be subject to further consideration.
- 6. But that would constitute, in effect, favorable disposition of the substantive issues presently before the Commission relative to those parties. While one of the groups which raised those issues has agreed to withdraw its petition as part of a settlement agreement with the parties to be severed, the Petitioners have made no such agreement. Since the Petitioners have adopted the arguments set forth in the petitions for reconsideration which have been filed herein, those arguments are still pending before the Commission relative to all the captioned parties, whether or not other parties may seek to withdraw them.
- 7. To the extent that the AGC's "severance" of certain parties might be deemed to insulate those parties from any substantive disposition of the issues, that "severance" plainly involves a "disposition on the merits of a previously specified issue concerning" those parties' basic qualifications. But the General Counsel (and, through him, the AGC) do not have delegated authority to take such action. Section 0.251(c). Accordingly, to the extent that the "severance" is in fact intended to provide

such insulation, that action is impermissible and must be reconsidered.  $^{1/}$ 

WHEREFORE, for the reasons stated, the Petitioners submit that, to the extent that it may insulate the severed parties from substantive disposition of designated issues in this on-going proceeding, the MO&O exceeds the authority delegated to the Office of the General Counsel, and it must therefore be reconsidered.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Harry F. Cole

Bechtel & Cole, Chartered 1901 L Street, N.W. Suite 250 Washington, D.C. 20036 (202) 833-4190

Counsel for the Petitioners

May 28, 1999

½ Of course, if the action is <u>not</u> intended to have that effect, and if the issues remain pending against those parties notwithstanding their settlement with others and their "severance" herefrom, then no reconsideration would be necessary. In that event, however, the AGC should at a minimum issue a clarifying order, so that the effect of his MO&O will be clearly stated for all concerned.

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Harry F. Cole hereby certifies that on this 28th day of May, 1999, I caused copies of the foregoing "Opposition to Motion to Strike" to be hand-delivered (as indicated below) or sent via U.S. first class mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the following:

Chairman William E. Kennard Federal Communications Commission The Portals, Room 8-B201 445 12th Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20554 (Hand Delivered)

Commissioner Harold Furchtgott-Roth Federal Communications Commission The Portals, Room 8-A302 445 12th Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20554 (Hand Delivered)

Commissioner Susan Ness Federal Communications Commission The Portals, Room 8-B115 445 12th Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20554 (Hand Delivered)

Commissioner Michael K. Powell Federal Communications Commission The Portals, Room 8-A204 445 12th Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20554 (Hand Delivered)

Commissioner Gloria Tristani Federal Communications Commission The Portals, Room 8-C302 445 12th Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20554 (Hand Delivered)

Daniel M. Armstrong,
Associate General Counsel
Roberta L. Cook, Counsel
Office of General Counsel
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals, Room 8-A766
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554
(Hand Delivered)

Thomas Sugrue, Chief Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Federal Communications Commission The Portals, Room 3-C207 445 12th Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20554 (Hand Delivered)

Steve Weingarten, Chief Commercial Wireless Division Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Federal Communications Commission The Portals, Room 4-C224 445 12th Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20554 (Hand Delivered)

Stephen Markendorff, Deputy Chief Commercial Wireless Division Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Federal Communications Commission The Portals, Room 4-C220 445 12th Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20554 (Hand Delivered)

Katherine Power, Esquire
Enforcement Division
Wireless Telecommunications Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals, Room 3-C407
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554
(Hand Delivered)

John Riffer
Assistant General Counsel Administrative Law
Office of General Counsel
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals, Room 8-A660
Washington, D.C. 20554
(Hand Delivered)

Mr. Michael H. Kleeb
Licensing and Technical
Analysis Branch
Commercial Wireless Division
Wireless Telecommunications Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals, Room 4-A100
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554
(Hand Delivered)

Ms. Juanita Wells
Licensing and Technical
Analysis Branch
Commercial Wireless Division
Wireless Telecommunications Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals, Room 4-C134
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554
(Hand Delivered)

Ms. Rosemary S. Kimball Office of Public Affairs Federal Communications Commission The Portals, Room CY-C418 445 12th Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20554 (Hand Delivered)

John P. Bankson, Jr., Esquire Drinker, Biddle & Reath 901 15th Street, N.W., Suite 900 Washington, D.C. 20005-2503 Counsel for A-1 Cellular Communications, et al.

Alan Y. Naftalin, Esquire Koteen & Naftalin, L.L.P. 1150 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036 Counsel for Alpha Cellular

Larry S. Solomon, Esquire
Shook, Hardy & Bacon, L.L.P.
Market Square West
Suite 600
801 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004-2165
Counsel for Bravo Cellular, L.L.C. &
Florida Cellular

Stephen Kaffee, Esquire
Law Office of Stephen Kaffee, P.C.
733 15th Street, N.W.
Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Counsel for Crystal Communications
Corp.

Carl W. Northrop, Esquire
Paul, Hastings, Janofsky
& Walker, L.L.P.
1299 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
10th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20004-2400
Counsel for Thomas Domencich & the
Committee for a Fair Lottery

David L. Hill, Esquire O'Connor & Hannan, L.L.P. 1919 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W. Suite 800 Washington, D.C. 20006 Counsel for Cellular Pacific, et al.

Barry H. Gottfried, Esquire
Fisher, Wayland, Cooper, Leader
& Zaragoza, L.L.P.
2001 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Suite 400
Washington, D.C. 20006-1851
Counsel for Applicants Against Lottery
Abuse

David J. Kaufman, Esquire Brown, Nietert & Kaufman, Chartered 1920 N Street, N.W. Suite 660 Washington, D.C. 20036 Counsel for Alabama Wireless, Inc.

Richard S. Myers, Esquire
Myers Keller Communications
Law Group
1522 K Street, N.W.
Suite 1100
Washington, D.C. 20005
Counsel for Buckhead Cellular
Communications Partnership

Donald J. Evans, Esquire James A. Kline, IV, Esquire Evans & Sill, P.C. 919 18th Street, N.W., Suite 700 Washington, D.C. 20006 Counsel for Miller Communications, Inc.

A. Thomas Carroccio, Esquire Bell, Boyd & Lloyd 1615 L Street, N.W. Suite 1200 Washington, D.C. 20036-5610 Counsel for The Joint Petitioners

William E. Zimsky, Esquire P.O. Box 3005 Durango, Colorado 81302 Counsel for ZDT Partnership James F. Ireland, III, Esquire
Cole, Raywid & Braverman, L.L.P.
1919 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Suite 200
Washington, D.C. 20006-3458
Counsel for Cellular Applicants'
Coalition

William J. Franklin, Esquire William J. Franklin, Chartered 1200 G Street, N.W., Suite 800 Washington, D.C. 20005

Peter Gutmann, Esquire Pepper & Corazzini, L.L.P. 1776 K Street, N.W., Suite 200 Washington, D.C. 20006

/ На:

Harry F. Cole